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INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY China

DATE DISTR. 25 MAY 50

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[Redacted Box]

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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

[Redacted Box]

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1. An area of Kwangtung Province bordering Tungshan Bay (108- , 21-) since its conquest by the Communists has been under the control not of the provincial government but of the Kwangtung-Kwangsi Border-Region Column.* Members of the Column hold most of the important positions in military control commissions and city and hsien governments such as Peihai (109-05, 21-24), Chin Hsien (103-37, 21-58), Lienchiang Hsien (110-16, 21-36), and Hopu Hsien (109-10, 21-38).
2. The chairman of the Peihai Military Control Commission is T'AN Chün (譚俊), who is also commander of the Fourth Detachment of the Kwangtung-Kwangsi Border Region Column. His deputy, HSU Tung-ching (徐永澄), in Peihai is also deputy in the political section of the detachment. WANG Ch'ien-chü (王欠菊) is both chairman of the Chin Hsien Military Control Commission and director of the political division of the Column's Third Detachment. His deputy, WANG Hsu-lin (王旭林), is simultaneously deputy director of the political division and magistrate of Chin Hsien.
3. These military control commissions and hsien governments are not under the authority of the provincial government of Kwangtung and were not established by order of the Canton authorities but only by a directive of the Kwangtung-Kwangsi Border-Region Column. None of the officials have been approved by the provincial government, and they are operating independently of it. Because they are backed by the Column, Canton and Kwangtung powers have not attempted to replace them with official appointees.

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* [Redacted Box] Comment: The Kwangtung-Kwangsi Border-Region Column is an irregular unit, not to be confused with the Kwangtung-Kwangsi Border Column, which is part of the Communist army.

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** [Redacted Box] Comment: The simultaneous tenure of military and civil positions is quite normal under the Communist government, with the commander of the military district often serving as provincial governor and mayor of a large city, such as YEH Chien-ying in Canton, who is mayor, governor, and head of the Military Control Commission. Such positions, however, are usually under the central government and controlled from Peking.

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